



Sunday Bible Study Guide | January 25, 2026

Weekly Memory Verse

No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you."

John 15:15-16

Sermon

A Friend of the Wise - Pastor Jared Herd

Scriptures: Proverbs 13:20; 18:24; 25:20; 27:6; John 15:15-16

Christian Friendship is 1) closer than family, 2) affectionate not transactional, and 3) feedback not flattery.

Mixer

1. For you, which seasons of life have been the easiest to have and maintain friendships and which seasons have been more challenging?

Sermon Recap & Prayer

Pray together. Review the main points of the sermon. Take a moment to read the scripture passages aloud as a group.

Discussion Questions

Observation: What does the passage say?

1. After reading each of the passages in Proverbs, what virtues or values are being commended and affirmed? What sins or behaviors are disapproved of?
2. What is the relationship between wisdom and friendship according to Solomon?
3. Was there anything about the passage/sermon that did not make sense to you?

Interpretation: What does the passage mean?

1. C.S. Lewis wrote in *The Four Loves*, "Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art, like the universe itself (for God did not need to create). It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things which give value to survival" (p.71). How does Christian friendship differ from the way our culture understands friendship?
2. Read John 15:12-17. How does the example of sacrificial love and friendship Christ has given to us change the way we value our friendships?
3. Scriptures for further reference: Prov. 17:17; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 4:15-16; 1 Thess. 5:14-18; Heb. 10:24-25

Application: How can we apply these passages to our lives?

1. How have friendships added value and wisdom to your life?
2. Instead of waiting to be needed, how can you be the friend who chooses to bless others by your presence this week?

Huddles

Break into small groups of 3-4 people of the same gender for deeper sharing, accountability, and prayer.

- How have you seen or enjoyed God's grace this week?
- How have you felt weary or discouraged this week?
- Is anything (e.g. school, work, social media, entertainment) isolating you from important relationships?
- Pray together.

14-Day Proverbs Devotional

Want To Be Baptized? Next One: Jan 25!

